

Rumrill, Nancy

From: Albright, David
Sent: Thursday, March 1, 2018 6:55 AM
To: Rumrill, Nancy
Subject: FW: Public Inquiry: Excelsior Mining Arizona

Hi Nancy, please respond to the inquiry below, that HQs forwarded. Include the cc that Bill requested. My suggestion would be to direct this person to the information we have available, and also be sure to inform him that the comment period has now closed. However, you could note that we will include his name on our list of interested parties to receive subsequent notifications about any action taken by the Agency on this project. You might also check to see if this was someone who signed in at the hearing. Happy to discuss if you would like. Thanks, David

-----Original Message-----

From: Albright, David
Sent: Thursday, March 01, 2018 6:50 AM
To: Bates, William <bates.william@epa.gov>
Cc: Bayer, MaryRose <Bayer.MaryRose@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Public Inquiry: Excelsior Mining Arizona

Hi Bill, thanks for forwarding this inquiry. Yes, it is a project we are working on here in R9. In fact, Tuesday night we held a public hearing for the proposed UIC permit. We will respond and include the cc as you requested. If you have other questions, let me know. Thanks, David

-----Original Message-----

From: Bates, William
Sent: Thursday, March 01, 2018 6:23 AM
To: Albright, David <Albright.David@epa.gov>
Cc: Bayer, MaryRose <Bayer.MaryRose@epa.gov>
Subject: FW: Public Inquiry: Excelsior Mining Arizona

Good morning David,

I hope that you are doing well.

We received the below inquiry regarding a mining project in Arizona. We thought that it is likely a project out of your office and that you or your staff would be able to respond to this better than we could. Is that a correct assumption?

If you are able to respond to the inquiry, please cc: safewater@epa.gov on your response. It helps us track all of the inquiries that are coming in.

If this project is not in your shop, if you could let me know who to reach out to, that would be great.

Thanks in advance.

Cheers
Bill

William J. L. Bates

Geologist, P.G.

Office of Ground Water & Drinking Water: Prevention Branch U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Washington, D.C.
202-564-6165

-----Original Message-----

From: Wadlington, Christina

Sent: Thursday, March 01, 2018 07:57

To: Bates, William <bates.william@epa.gov>; Goodwin, Kara <goodwin.kara@epa.gov>

Cc: Corr, Elizabeth <Corr.Elizabeth@epa.gov>

Subject: Public Inquiry: Excelsior Mining Arizona

Morning!

Can the Protection Branch follow up?

-----Original Message-----

From: drupal_admin@epa.gov [mailto:drupal_admin@epa.gov] On Behalf Of EPA

Sent: Wednesday, February 28, 2018 11:28 AM

To: safewater <safewater@epa.gov>

Subject: Form submission from: Underground Injection Control (UIC) Contact Us About Underground Injection Control form

Submitted on 02/28/2018 11:28AM

Submitted values are:

Name: Robert Luce

Email Address: (b)(6)/Privacy Act

Comments:

Excelsior Mining Arizona, Inc.

Permit #: R9UIC-AZ3-FY16-1

I request the public be provided the following:

1. Information on who will do the monitoring on this project? The public should receive the short- and long-term monitoring plan written by Excelsior and approved by EPA and Arizona Department of Environmental Quality before the project commences. Included in the monitoring plan should be information on many in-situ copper mines are in US and the environmental record of each of those mines?
2. The operating plan for the mine. This should include the location of monitoring wells, how many wells will be drilled and how long they will be monitored. When the ISR is finished and the artificial cone of depression around the production wells is abandoned, contamination should be monitored for at least one-half mile around the well for several years and the results published in a public venue.
3. Information on the geology of the proposed mine area, and location of the underground aquifers including the direction of underground movement of water in this area. This should include the safeguards that will be implemented to protect the underground aquifer and any surface water, such as springs, that might be impacted. Included should be the estimated amount of excursion (escape of leaching solutions) and how this will be monitored. An evaluation of potential impact of underground contamination on Willcox Playa should be included.
4. A copy of the Hydrogeological Model prepared for the project by Excelsior.
Excelsior should also have prepared a groundwater pressure map for aquifers that may be impacted? Please provide a copy of the results of this analysis to the public.

5. Detailed information on the proposed method of disposal of contaminated water., and if it is to be re-injected, the potential effect on the aquifer.